

ITOH

Appl. No. 10/689,631

May 10, 2004

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 26, as follows:

The control device 60 issues an operation command to the electronic camera 43 of the information reading device 40. The camera 43 moves up and down (camera 43' indicates the camera in a down position) by the lifting/lowering control mechanism and starts to pick up an image. The camera 43 performs a so-called scanning image pickup operation of relatively scanning the sheet attached to the surface of the specimen container 1.

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2. This sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2. In Figure 2, reference numbers 101 and 103 have been deleted.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)  
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes